

Museum Quarterly Report
October-December 2003

Overview

The Museum is the first U.S. venue of the exhibit "Choices" sponsored by the Contemporary Holocaust Education Foundation. It opened at the museum on December 13 to a gathering of about 100 people. Several dignitaries from the CHEF were on hand to talk a bit about the exhibit including Cor Suijk the former director of the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. The exhibit explores the choices young people made before and during the Holocaust and the choices they make today. It is scheduled through January 24, 2004.

Personnel

No Change

Gift and Donations

We had 12 donations in the past quarter.

Travel

In state:

Jody Franklin (consultation on inventory of collections)
Joe Franklin (consultation on preservation and care of collections)
Milan Lava Hot Springs – met with museum people
Milan Franklin-met with city council and new members of the Idaho Days Pioneer Association.
Milan also met with the new mayor of Franklin.
Milan Rock Creek to pick up the lawn mower to refurbish for use in the spring.
Kurt Lolo Pass for the 2003 Lewis and Clark Workshop

Out of state:

Jody Seattle for the Western Museums Association Conference Planning committee
Fred Reno-Western Museums Association annual meeting
Kurt Maryland-National History Day Training Workshop

Exhibits and traveling trunks

The "On the Road with Lewis & Clark" grant will continue through June of 2004. The trunks have a full schedule through May of 2004.

The traveling exhibits are also busy going out to several schools and other educational facilities.

Brown Bag Lectures

The brown bag lectures have been well received again this quarter with an average of 100 participants at each one.

Events this quarter

Oct 10 IHC reception
Oct 14 Brown Bag-Aukera: A History of Basques in Idaho-John Bieter

Nov 5 Compass meeting-6pm-10pm
Nov 11 Brown Bag-"The Warhawk Air Museum Experience"-Sue Paul, Elmo Stickler & Bill Gornik

Dec 9 Brown Bag-Jedediah Smith-Barton Barbour
Dec 10 United Nation's Human Rights Day-7pm-9pm
Dec 13 "Choices"- reception-5pm-7pm
Dec 15 Volunteer Holiday Event-Alexander House-4pm-7pm

Upcoming Events

Jan	"Choices" replaced the brown bag for this month
Jan 21	Talk by Cor Suijk about the "Choices" exhibit-5pm-7pm
Jan 24	Fred Gowens-Fur Trapping Era-6:30pm-9pm
Feb 4	BMA meeting-noon
Feb 5	IHPC annual meeting-7pm-9pm
Feb 10	Brown Bag-50 th Anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education-Kimetta Coleman
Feb 10	Friends annual meeting-1pm (following the brown bag)
Mar 4,5,6	Environmental meeting
Mar 9	Brown Bag-Women & Families on the Oregon Trail-Sandra Schachel-Idaho Humanities Council
Mar 12	NASW Idaho -(National Association of Social Workers) -4:30pm-10pm

Education

Personnel

Intern-Abby Buckmaster

Program Updates

- *Museum Programs*- In addition to our usual school programs, we are starting to organize a new program for the summer. In order to reach a new audience, we will be offering weeklong summer education camps for children age 7-12. These camps, in cooperation with Zoo Boise and The Boise Art Museum, will be trial runs to help us establish whether a bigger program is feasible for the following year.
- *History day*- In October Kurt attended a National History Day training conference in Maryland. This training helped me make contact with other state coordinators and gave ideas on how to better organize the contest. Steady progress is being made on this year's contest. At this point, we are up to date on all of the duties associated with the contest. This year's funding seems to be sufficient, but next year's support is still in question.
- *Prospector Club*- Close to 100 teachers has signed up for the club this year. The new Internet newsletter seems to be working well. A survey is planned for the end of the year to evaluate the teachers' response to the new program.
- *Volunteer Social*- In December, the education committee organized the winter volunteer social. The event was held at the Alexander House in downtown Boise and was a big success. Over eighty volunteers showed up on a Monday evening to socialize, eat, and receive a thank you gift from the historical society.
- *Other*- The museum participated in the Lewis and Clark teacher's workshop held at Lolo Pass in October. Thirty teachers attended the training and the event was an overall success. Plans are under way to organize another workshop for next year.

Historic Sites

Preliminary design work for Rock Creek Station Interpretation Center is undergoing initial review process

A contractor has been hired to do the wiring at both the Doney House and Hatch House. When the weather allows the contractor will begin.

A contractor has also been hired to do the new roof on the rented house at Franklin.

The re-roofing on the two Guard Towers in the #2 yard is now completed.

The geothermal pump house has been re-wired. The materials are on hand for the re-roofing of the pump house where the maintenance crew is waiting for the weather to warm up to begin the job.

Both Milan and Ken have responded to Steve Guerber regarding the Master Plan for the Botanical Garden.

A permanent gate has been installed at the Old Penitentiary entrance.

The maintenance crew has also moved the metal workshop up to the blacksmith shop.

While the weather is cold and they cannot work outside, they are in the process of going through the shop equipment and refurbishing the tools that need it.

Ken has been meeting with representatives from the East End Neighborhood Association about proposed changes to traffic flow on Warm Springs Ave.

Old Idaho Penitentiary

Visitation

This quarter the Old Idaho Penitentiary had 2,672 visitors.

Education

Thirteen educational groups with a total of 781 students and chaperones visited the Old Idaho Penitentiary this quarter.

Special Events

The Renaissance Institute, A Boise State University program for people over 50, held a lecture at the Old Penitentiary on October 16. Dr. Michael Blankenship, dean of BSU's College of Social Science and Public Affairs, presented his "Crime and Response: Punishment vs. Rehabilitation" to approximately 35 people in the Old Penitentiary's auditorium.

On October 25, Capital High School hosted a Halloween dance at the Old Penitentiary for 225 Capital High students. The students behaved very maturely and left the site in excellent condition. They are hoping to make the dance an annual event.

Personnel

In October, Elara Smith replaced Keri Lamkin as a part-time, weekend interpreter at the Old Penitentiary. Keri is leaving us to serve in the Peace Corps in Asia.

Volunteers

This quarter fifteen volunteers donated 360.25 hours of their time to the Old Idaho Penitentiary.

Respectfully submitted by

Kenneth J. Swanson
Administrator
Idaho State Historical Museum and sites